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Testimony, March/April 1951

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TESTIMONY

Vol. III No. III

Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland

March - April, 1951

BBI Choir Tours Western Ohio

Jackson Prepares For Venezuela

Looking forward to her missionary work in Venezuela, Mary Alice Jackson, '50, is now making preparation to leave in the very near future.

Her work will center around Upata, in the state of Boliva, 200 miles inland.

Mary Alice is a native of Troy, Ohio, and was saved under the ministry of Rev. George Gibson during his pastorate there. Rev. Gibson is now pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Cleveland. Early in her experience, she felt the Lord calling her to Venezuela, but refused to heed the calling. In 1949 at Portsmouth, Ohio, while attending a meeting conducted by Rev. Milton Arnold of Mid-Missions, she did surrender her life in His service.

Mary Alice used to live on a fruit farm, and probably one of the things that prejudiced her against mission work in a Catholic country was the convent nearby. "The Lord has taken care of that matter," she states, "in sending Clarence along. He's been a Catholic for twenty years and knows how to deal with them!" Clarence Curley is her fiancé.

Half of the equipment, and over half of the support is still needed before Mary Alice can set sail.

"And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice" (John 10:4).

Alumni Serve In Many Fields

Someone once said, "A school is judged by the students it produces." We feel B. B. I. needs not take a back seat in regard to its alumni, for they can be found in many avenues of service doing a great work for the Lord.

From the '46 class, which was only evening school, Miss Zelma Clinesmith has gone to Montana to do missionary work, and Miss Opal Wharf is a Senior Major in the Salvation Army. Still from evening school, John Hes, '48, is pastoring a Baptist church in Hammonton, New Jersey.

Spring Musical Set for May 5

Saturday, May 5, marks the date for the annual B. B. I. Spring Musical by the Institute choir in the Hough Avenue Baptist Church auditorium.

An interesting and unusual program has been planned. Mueller's arrangement of "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," Bornschein's "Creation Hymn" (an adaptation of Rachmaninoff's "Prelude in C Sharp Minor"), selected negro spirituals, and Fred Waring's arrangement of "The Holy City" are a few selections from a full evening's program.

The concert will have a momentous ending carrying out the theme of the second coming of our Lord.

Instrumentalists for the choir are: Mary Jo Moore, pianist; Kenneth Andrus, organist; Edna White, vibraharpist; and Richard Damon, violinist.

The choir consists of forty voices from both the day and evening schools, and is directed by Vivian Kretz Amsler.

The Baptist Bible Institute choir is looking forward to an extended week-end tour through western Ohio April 20-23.

Traveling by chartered bus, the group will leave Friday afternoon for a service at 7:30 in the First Baptist Church of Galion, Ohio; then to the First Regular Baptist Church of Bellefontaine, Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Columbus is the next stop Sunday afternoon in the Memorial Baptist Church at 2:30. Sunday evening at 7:30, the Blessed Hope Baptist Church of Springfield will be the host, and the tour will terminate in Medina at the First Baptist Church on Monday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

Featured with the choir is a male quartet, girls trio, male chorus, mixed octette with the use of piano, organ, violin and vibraharp accompaniments. The choir is under the direction of Mrs. Vivian Amsler.

We urge readers to pray for journey mercies during the tour and for God's manifest presence and blessing during each program. Those living within driving distance of the churches mentioned above are invited to attend the concerts.

FMF Investigates New Affiliations

The Foreign Missions Fellowship is contemplating the possibility of joining the Student Foreign Missions Fellowship of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship.

The Student Foreign Missions Fellowship is an association of groups of Christian young people, in training, who pur-

pose to serve the Lord on the mission field. Its purpose is primarily to spread the knowledge of missions, guide students into paths of missionary endeavor, and to create a close association among students of various schools who are looking forward to missionary service.

The advantages of such an affiliation are many. Prayer numbers would be increased. The S. F. M. F. sends helpful literature to inform and more clearly formulate the student's conception of his call to service. It also unites the student body in labouring toward a more precise goal.

In joining our own Fellowship under this new setup, a student is classified in one of three groupings: (1) those who definitely feel the call to the foreign field, (2) those who are indefinite as to the Lord's will, and (3) those who feel definitely called to service here at home. (The third group comprises the associate membership). This makes provision for anyone in the student body, whereas our present group has no advantage for the fellow or girl who is called for the home field.

This proposal is up for consideration now, but it is not likely that action will take place until school opens in the Fall. A vote by the student body will be necessary.

Ernest and Roberta Ferguson, from the '49 day school class, are attending Kings College for further training.

From the '50 day school class, we already have been informed about Ruth Nephew and John and Alice Gazdik who are serving in Europe, and in addition to that report, Samuel Brindiar and Ben Garlich are attending Youngstown College. Both have pastorates. Charles Noffsinger is also pastoring the Superior Avenue Baptist Church here in Cleveland.

Not being able to complete their work here, we have Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Stanton doing missionary work in McDowell, Kentucky. Dale and Bea Davis are missionaries in Alaska, and Florian Manas is the pastor of a church near Union City, Pennsylvania.

We named just a few to give a good cross-section of the alumni, and are praising God for the marvelous way He has used the school for His purpose.

Our Greatest Need

By Kenneth A. Amsler

Our primary and paramount need is daily fellowship with God. Divine, spiritual, eternal life comes from God and is entirely dependent upon Him. As I need fresh air every moment to sustain my physical life, even so do I need the breath and life of God to sustain my spiritual life. Just as I need the sun in the sky to furnish light and life to maintain my body, so do I need the Son of God in Heaven to provide light and life for my soul and spirit. Without the sun all physical life on earth would perish. Apart from the Son of God no spiritual life can be obtained or maintained. "Abide in Me, and I in you . . . for apart from Me ye can do nothing" (John 15:4, 5). There is no root or fruit, no light or life, no peace or joy, no power or victory apart from Him.

"I cannot live apart from Him,
I love to feel Him nigh;
And so we walk together,
My Lord and I."

If we are to live that life which is life indeed, we must have daily and direct communion with God. The manna of today will not suffice for tomorrow (Exodus 16). "And in the morning, then ye shall see the glory of the Lord . . . and in the morning bread to the full . . . And they gathered it morning by morning, every man according to his eating; and when the sun waxed hot, it melted." We must have fresh manna every morning! When some of the people of Israel tried to keep the manna for the next day, they found that it bred worms and stank. No wonder some of us are sad, sour Christians! We are trying to live today on the manna of yesterday! We are moldy and full of worms! Instead of a sweet smelling savor we are a sour stench in the nostrils of God and man. We are trying to live on rotten waste, instead of living on the daily fresh bread from heaven.

We must take time to meet God every day. We must begin each day by getting low before Him until He touches us and we touch Him. We must have an appointment with God every day. We must



really keep that appointment and during the appointment let us be sure that we have an interview! We must be still and silent before God until we realize His presence and power.

A happy Christian once met an Irish peddler and exclaimed, "It's a grand thing to be saved."

"Eh?" said the peddler. "It is, but I know something better than that."

"What can you possibly know better than that?"

The peddler replied, "The companionship of the One who saved me!"

I thought I needed many things

Along Life's toilsome way,
When days were long and heavy cares
Left scarcely time to pray.

I thought I needed many things

For those I held most dear,
When they were sad and longed for rest
Or change of portion here.

When it was Thee, I needed, Lord,
To satisfy my heart,
To fill my days with rest and peace,
And every grace impart.

And those I loved, but needed Thee,
Not change of scene or place,
By faith, just now, through sun or shade
Thy loving hand to trace.

Just Thee, alone, my blessed Lord,
For every time and place;
Just Thee alone - until we all
Shall see Thee face to face.

Grace E. Troy

"Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So"

We are happy once again to share with you a few joyous testimonies. There is one thing that seems prevalent in each testimony and that is "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad" (Psalm 126:3).

"Two years ago B. B. I. beheld a 'hayseed' just blown in from — well, everyone wondered where! Now, after they have endured me for sixteen months, I am asked what I desire most in the future. It's to know Him and make Him known. My verse for the year is Philippians 3:14, 'I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.'" Blanche Nephew, second year.

"Galatians 2:20 is a verse that is very precious to my heart, 'I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.' When I was yet a poor lost sinner, steeped in sin, God in His wonderful love was willing to sacrifice His own Son that I might be set free. All glory be to Christ for His undying love and the suffering that He endured for me." James Johnson, first year.

God's Anvil

"I stood one evening by the blacksmith's door,

And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;

Then, looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers worn with beating years
of time.

"'How many anvils have you had,' said I,

'To wear and batter all these hammers so?'

'Just one,' the blacksmith said, with twinkling eye:

'The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.'

"And so methought—the Anvil of God's Word

For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
And though the sound of clanging blows is heard,

The Anvil is unharmed, the hammers gone."

Prayer will make a man to cease from sin, or sin will make him cease from prayer.

John Bunyon

Religious Trends Invade Popular Music

The popularity of religious songs along "Tin Pan Alley" was noted by Elizabeth Toomey in a recent United Press release.

For the first time, popular music publishers are scrambling to publish "religiousos" as popular religious tunes are called around Broadway.

"A wave of religious songs can be expected in troubled times like these," said Arnold Shaw, vice president of the Duchess Music Corporation, "but this is the biggest one yet, and the first time publishers have become so immersed in religious songs."

One of the most popular of the "religiousos" is Stuart Hamblen's "It Is No Secret What God Can Do." Mr. Hamblen, a former folk singer and race horse owner, recently found the Lord under the ministry of Billy Graham. "That one was number nine on the list of best selling music this week in Billboard," Shaw said proudly (since his company pub-

lished it). "There are nineteen different recordings of it. 'Goodnight Irene' only got into the twenties.

"There was one thing that seemed pretty unusual," Shaw confessed cautiously. "You know, this whole thing started in the midwest, in the so-called Bible belt, which wasn't surprising, but I never expected the demand to spread so rapidly into the cities!"

"A tremendous number of professional song writers are concentrating on religiousos now," he added. "One out of every three comes in here with a religious tune." Songs like "Music By the Angels," "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You," and "My Twilight Prayer" are the result.

One publisher made mention of the unsympathetic attitude of the juke box operators. This might be due to the fact that people are hesitant at making known their religious inclinations in a public place.

B. B. I. TESTIMONY

Published periodically by the students of the Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland.

Kenneth Andrus	Managing Editor
Melvin Eathing	Associate Editor
Kenneth A. Amsler	Consulting Editor
John G. Bennett	Publication Manager
JoAnn Howard	Circulation Manager
Joan Lunning	Exchange Editor
Nancy Manning, Edith Spieth	Typists
Martha Hall	Proofreader



The Forty-voice choir of the Baptist Bible Institute now looking forward to their annual concert and spring tour.

This-N-That

A Quaker lady with a beautiful complexion was asked what kind of cosmetics she used. She replied: "I use for my lips, TRUTH; for my voice, PRAYER; for my eyes, PITY; for my hands, CHARITY; for my figure, UPRIGHTNESS; for my heart, LOVE."

W. W. Martin tells of putting these words over the clock in a certain mission church: "83 A Minute." At last a deputation came to him and said, "Will you kindly take that down—it haunts us." They knew that it meant that 83 souls a minute were passing into eternity.

When flowers are full of heaven-descended dews, they always hang their heads.

ARE YOU

PRAYING

FOR B. B. I.?

Athletic Department Makes Big Strides

Current growth of B. B. I. is being featured in more ways than one. Not only has there been an increase in members, but in facilities as well. Recently, Mr. Paul Williams, director of athletic activities, obtained use of the gym at the Fidelity Baptist Church here in Cleveland. Alternating every Saturday evening, the fellows and girls take their turns at the gym.

Through the enthusiastic promotion of Gary Woods, second year student, we have played basketball games with such teams as Cleveland Bible College, Fidelity Baptist Church, and John Marshall Alumni.

A good corps of rooters is being developed by cheerleaders Joan Lunning, Nancy Manning and Ward Arthur Weaver; and speaking of cheers, our hats are doffed to the girls who promoted a fund drive to purchase trunks and jerseys for the team. In accordance with the school colors, the trunks and jerseys are red with white lettering.

Lest We Forget

May 5 Spring Musical

7:45 in the Hough Avenue Baptist Church auditorium.

May 11 Graduation Banquet

6:30 in the Hough Avenue Baptist Church dining room.

June 1 Commencement

7:45 in the Hough Avenue Baptist Church auditorium. Dr. David Otis Fuller is the speaker.

Have you joined the 500 club?

Do you want your worldly possessions to count for Christ after you are gone? If so, remember B. B. I. in your will. If you wish further information, please write the business manager.

Uncle Sam or Bible School?

Every fellow today has undoubtedly done some serious thinking about the armament of our country, and we have asked a few folks their opinion on the subject. The question is: "What is a fellow's first responsibility: responding to the call of our country in draft or enlistment, or continuing in Bible School?"

Walter Banks, third year, "I think a man should answer the call to service."

Elmer Evans, third year, "I think one should continue, if he is already enrolled in school, until he is called. Then, he should be ready to respond."

Raymond Holt, first year, "Serve God first."

Donald Woodby, Christian Service director, "If a fellow is drafted into the service, he doesn't have much choice in the matter, since God has permitted nations to have sovereignty over their subjects. For a person not to respond to the draft as a conscientious objector is violating the command of Christ to 'render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's.' As a citizen, we have a responsibility to our nation. As a Christian, we also have the will of God as our responsibility. If it is God's will for us to go into His service, we must do all we can to comply with that will."

Joan Lunning, third year, "I feel that if a fellow has been in school and definitely feels the Lord has called him there, he should remain in school. His being in school already proves he is not just a draft-dodger."

Balderdash

By Kenneth Andrus

Spring is here! Tra-la-tra-la! Hum-de-hum! Three skips and a jump! and all that! My, already I have visions of a bicycle hike along the lake, horseback riding on a bright afternoon in the country, or better still, a few lazy hours in the back yard enchanted with the smell of lilacs and soft music seeming to float from nowhere (except my portable)! But alas! my aesthetic nature is squelched as the radio announcer breaks into my thoughts, "... high tomorrow 37, low 34!" Well, the calendar says "Spring" anyway!

Have you ever heard this jingle?

"Ah, 'Tis Spring —

The bird is on the wing!

Why, that's absurd —

I've always heard

The wing was on the bird!"

Quaint ... isn't it? ... found it in a little newspaper we used to publish in junior high school. Where did I get it then? — don't remember.

There's something interesting, peculiarly so, about Spring — just why do they call it that? We have the bed spring, "the spring what am a gush of water," and even the spring that the boat does when it gets a leak, but none of these characterize this season of the year. (I wonder if Aristotle ever tackled this problem). It must be that in the Fall,

leaves fall, and in the Winter, it's windier, and in the Spring, flowers spring ... up.

To change the subject (it's rude, but I'm sorry), I've noticed another aspect of Spring. You probably know the old saying, "In the Spring a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of automobiles!" Well, it's happened. We already have Harry Banfield's '38 Pontiac with the fluttering rear fender tied on with clothesline (he used to use a piece of sheet, and it looked like a lame dog with his leg in a sling)! Then there's Dick Phelps' '37 Chevy — last week there was a big puddle in the drive where the gas had all leaked out!

But now, I've heard everything! Ray Entingh, Don Rettger, and Dave Smith were talking about buying a "Pierce Arrow" they saw in some lot for only \$55!

At first mention of it I thought it was the name of some Indian! I never heard of the things before, and the name sounds so antiquish. I can just see it — spoked wheels, hard rubber tires, paint can headlights, a washboard radiator, and even a pair of "Cadillac fins" on the rear fenders (if it has any rear fenders)! For fifty more dollars, they can have the engine!

Well, good balderdash to you all.

Life's Greatest Business

Editors note: With this issue, we are happy to present Donald MacDonald, pastor of the Hough Avenue Baptist Church, and vice president of B. B. I. Pastor MacDonald is professor in Life of Christ and Bible Analysis. He teaches in both Day and Evening schools.



There are few people in this world that are not concerned about a life of business, but when an individual becomes a Christian, instead of a life of business, it should be "the business of life." That's what happened when the Lord Jesus called the disciples from ordinary pursuits to follow Him.

In the fourth of Matthew we read of how Jesus, "walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brethren . . . casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers." Jesus "saw two brethren." Is that all He saw? No, He saw far more than two men. He saw the qualities, the possibilities of these two. He knew what they could do under His control.

So He said: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." You see, the Lord Jesus invited those men, as He does still today, to turn from a life of business to the highest, the best, the most fruitful "business of life" — the real "business of life."

A minute study of the life of Peter from that moment on reveals that he had many high, holy, and rare privileges. Yet, when the vital test came, Peter failed. Why? What were the reasons for his tragic downfall in the three-fold denial of Christ? There are three basic reasons worthy of careful and prayerful consideration.

First, He esteemed the privilege of walking closely with Jesus far too lightly. Such expressions as "Peter sat without . . ." "Peter followed afar off . . ." "Peter stood at the door without . . ." punctuate the record of those dark hours. It would seem that Peter was just within earshot. It may have been that the pace was too stiff, or that he lacked the spiritual stamina required. It may have been that the place at Jesus' side cost too much personally to be maintained.

Second, it was Peter's fatal choice of companionship with the enemies of Christ. The record says that "Peter

stood with them," that "he sat down with them," and that he "warmed himself at their fire." Their topic of conversation was Jesus Christ, and what a rude, revolting conversation it was: accentuated with scorn and ridicule. The lesson, of course, is that warming one's self by the world's fire is no way to keep spiritual warmth.

Third, another reason for Peter's downfall was the tragic state of being too sure of himself. Jesus had warned in a general statement: "Satan hath desired to have thee," and in a specific statement: "Before the cock crows twice, thou shalt deny me thrice." But Peter was filled with self-confidence and self-importance, and this certainly contributed to his failure, when the warning of Jesus should have made him avoid the enemies of Jesus and seek the intimate fellowship of His Lord.

In addition, it should be noted that after Jesus' resurrection, Peter's sense of failure and belief that he had "flunked

out," and could be of no further use to the Lord (as all back-sliders believe) said: "I go a fishing," and he went to a life of business. Because a backslider always draws others with him, the rest said, "We also go with thee."

But Jesus had said, "I will make you . . ." Jesus had committed Himself to perfect in Peter, as in all who follow Him, the good work which He begins with the new birth (Philippians 1:6). Thus you will recall that Peter was graciously restored, he was blessedly remade and revitalized.

There are three reasons for Peter's great usefulness to the Lord, and undoubtedly they are: (1) the power of the intercession of Christ, (2) the presence of the Holy Spirit, and (3) the proclamation of the resurrection. Peter thus became the kind of Christian who fears no one but God, hates nothing but sin, loves nothing but the souls of men, and knows nothing "save Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

God grant that not one of us shall miss out on "the business of life" because we have failed to learn by Peter. Let no young Christian ever believe that, if he has failed the Lord, he cannot be restored and remade. Above all, let us learn to lay hold on God's gracious provision so that, in "the business of life," the power of our interceding High Priest, the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit, and the knowledge of the resurrection may make us "fruitful unto every good work."

Opportunity

The Lord has really been blessing B. B. I. by the number and quality of the students He has been sending us. We have really grown out of our dormitory and now we are trusting Him for another dormitory to be ready by the time school opens in September.

Some friends of B. B. I. have already contributed to a special fund for the purchase or erection of additional buildings. Here is an opportunity for the saints of God to give substantially toward a definite program.

Money invested in training young Christians is a wise investment with big returns. Each one will go forth to win souls resulting in untold numbers reached for Christ. Just mark your gift for the building fund. Won't you pray about this matter?

Need Prevails for Dorm Improvements

In the last issue of *Testimony* an article told of the much needed dormitory improvements and how the work was getting under way. That job is now finished. The additional bathroom facilities and third floor partitioning are completed.

There is still a need, however. All of the expenses have not yet been met, and there is still a necessity for a fire escape.

Our present need amounts to \$713.00. We are trusting that all our friends will contribute toward this project so we will reach our goal. May we hear from you?

Are you praying for B. B. I. daily?

(Sec. 34.66 P.L. & R.)

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